

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05

L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

/103 R

DRAFTED BY EB/OT/GCP:RBANQUE:JM

APPROVED BY EB/ITP:CWSCHMIDT

LABOR:JCOYLE

TREASURY:AGAULT

AGRICULTURE:KREYNOLDS

STR:SLANDE (SUBS)

COMMERCE:GBARE

EUR/RPE:ECASEY

EUR/SE:BSCARLIS

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R 292334Z DEC 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USDEL MTN GENEVA

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GR

SUBJECT: ELIGIBILITY OF GREECE UNDER U.S. GSP: REVERSE
PREFERENCES

REF: ATHENS 10044

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1. EMBASSY MAY INFORM GOG IN RESPONSE NOTE RECEIVED
REFTEL THAT USG PREPARED TO MEET WITH GOG DELEGATION AT
MUTUALLY CONVENIENT TIME IN WASHINGTON. WE BELIEVE TWO
OR THREE DAYS MAY BE REQUIRED FOR THE INITIAL ROUND OF
CONSULTATIONS. WE SUGGEST THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF JANUARY
OR THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF FEBRUARY EXCEPT FEBRUARY 12-13.

2. ALTHOUGH WE ARE WILLING TO RECEIVE GREEK REPS
EMBASSY SHOULD MAKE CLEAR THAT GOG ATTEMPT TO DISSUADE US
THAT U.S. COMMERCE IS SUFFERING SIGNIFICANT ADVERSE EFFECT
FROM PREFERENCES AFFORDED EC, AS INDICATED FINAL PARA
REFTEL, IS NOT REPEAT NOT LIKELY TO BE FRUITFUL. THE
RESULTS OF OUR EXAMINATION OF THE GREEK SYSTEM AND TRADE
DATA LEAD US TO CONCLUDE THAT THERE IS SUCH ADVERSE
EFFECT, WITHIN THE MEANING OF OUR LEGISLATION. THE
LANGUAGE OF SECTION 502(B)(3) OF THE TRADE ACT MAY OFFER

SOME APPARENT FLEXIBILITY IN DECIDING WHAT IS "SIGNIFICANT."
HOWEVER, WE HAVE HELD CONSULTATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES
ON THE SAME BASIS AS PROPOSED TO GOG AND HAVE MAINTAINED
A CONSISTENT DEFINITION THROUGHOUT, INCLUDING WITH
THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL WHICH SUBSTANTIALLY ACCEPTED
OUR CRITERIA AND TOOK ACTION BASED THEREON. A CHANGE
IN DEFINING "SIGNIFICANT" WOULD RE-OPEN ISSUES WITH
THIRD COUNTRIES THAT WE DO NOT INTEND TO RE-OPEN.
WHILE WE WILL, OF COURSE, LISTEN TO GOG VIEWS, WE FEEL
THAT A CHANGE IN POSITION IS VERY UNLIKELY. FYI SPAIN
EXPENDED SUBSTANTIAL EFFORTS TO TRY TO CONVINCE US THAT
U.S. COMMERCE WAS NOT SUFFERING SIGNIFICANT ADVERSE
EFFECTS. OUR INABILITY TO BE FLEXIBLE ON THIS POINT WAS
APPARENTLY A SURPRISE TO THE GOG, WHICH HAD SIMILARLY
MISINTERPRETED OUR POSITION AS NEGOTIABLE ON THIS POINT.
WE WISH TO AVOID REPETITION OF ANY SUCH MISUNDERSTANDING
WITH GOG. END FYI. ROBINSON

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